

Message Text

SECRET

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EA-11 IO-14 AID-20 PM-07 NSC-07

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3818

S E C R E T ANKARA 3174

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR CENTO

SUBJ: CENTO SITUATION PAPER

REF: ANKARA 3134

1. IN HOPE OF RESOLVING DISAGREEMENT OVER PAKISTANI AMMEND-
MENT OF PARA 35 OF SITUATION PAPER, CENTO SECRETARIAT HAS
DRAFTED FOLLOWING REVISION AND HAS CIRCULATED IT WITH REQUEST
THAT GOVERNMENTS VIEWS BE OBTAINED IN TIME FOR POLITICAL
WORKING GROUP MEETING MAY 7:

QUOTE 35. THE SOVIET UNION HAS SUSTAINED ITS
RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIA TACTFULLY, STRIVING TO AVOID HURTING
INDIAN SENSITIVITIES CONCERNING FOREIGN INTERFERENCE AND
UTILIZING INDIA'S FEARS OF CHINA. INDO-SOVIET RELATIONS WHICH
HAD BECOME COOLER AS A RESULT OF INCREASING INDIAN SELF-
CONFIDENCE, WARMED UP AGAIN DURING BREZHNEV'S VISIT IN
NOVEMBER 1973. DURING THIS VISIT, TWO ECONOMIC AND
ONE CONSULAR AGREEMENT WERE SIGNED WHICH MAY STRENGTHEN
THE INDO-SOVIET COOPERATION. A LARGE WHEAT LOAN OF 2 MILLION
TONS TO INDIA WAS AGREED UPON EARLIER IN THE AUTUMN. INDIAN
SUPPORT OF THE ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM WAS NOT
SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER
THE VISIT. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER IN THE FUTURE INDIA WILL
SUPPORT OR OPPOSE THE ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM.

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AS A RESULT OF THIS VISIT, NEW EMPHASIS IS BEING PLACED ON

INDO-SOVIET RELATIONS AND THUS ON THE INDO-SOVIET TREATY
OF 1972. THE SOVIETS CLAIM THAT THIS VISIT WAS OF
GREAT SIGNIFICANCE, ALTHOUGH THE INDIANS HAVE STRESSED THAT
INDIA'S ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE WAS NO COM-
PROMISED AS A RESULT. UNQUOTE.

2. WE WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS
PRIOR MAY 7 MEETING.
MACOMBER

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NNN

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